

Influential Information

A clear and substantial annual direct cost impact on the public or private sector of \$100 million or more, or

A clear and substantial impact on important public policies or important private sector decisions.

A clear and substantial impact on regulatory action.

Important consequences for specific health practices, technologies, substances, products, or firms.

Another reason for being “influential.”

*The NIH defines “influential” when used in the phrase “influential scientific, financial, or statistical information” to mean the NIH can “reasonably determine that dissemination of the information will have or does have a clear and substantial impact on important public policies or important private sector decisions, or will have important consequences for specific health practices, technologies, substances, products, or firms.”

“A clear and substantial impact” is one that the NIH is firmly convinced has a high probability of occurring. The impact must be on “important” public policy or private sector decisions that are expected to occur. Note that every decision that NIH makes has the potential to be important to someone. That does not mean that disseminated information used for each decision is influential, as the word is used in the guidelines.

Defined within Question 4 text at <http://ospp.od.nih.gov/infoquality/intranet/decisiontrees1-4.asp>

Question 4

Is your official NIH scientific information dissemination “influential”?

MAYBE

NO

YES

Scientific information will have or does have:?

YES

NO

STOP

Your information is not covered by the Bulletin.

Contact your IC POC, so NIH can confirm whether this information is “influential.”

Is the dissemination a scientific assessment?

A "scientific assessment" is an evaluation of a body of scientific or technical knowledge that typically synthesizes multiple factual inputs, data, models, assumptions, and/or applies best professional judgment to bridge uncertainties in the available information. For purposes of the OMB Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review, a scientific assessment is one that uses a formal methodology. A formal methodology applies a rigorous, systematic approach to the collection and analysis of data. The assessments include state-of-the science reports; technology assessments; weight-of-evidence analyses; meta-analyses; health, safety, or ecological risk assessments; toxicological characterizations of substances; integrated assessment models; hazard determinations; or exposure assessments.

Could the assessment have a potential economic impact of more than \$500 million in any year; or

Is the assessment novel - Would a reasonable scientist who is knowledgeable in the field consider the scientific assessment to be novel, given the current state of science in the field?; or

Is the assessment controversial - Would a reasonable scientist who is knowledgeable in the field conclude that this scientific assessment is controversial, given the current state of the field?; or

Is the assessment precedent-setting - 1. Is the assessment the first of its kind in the scientific field, and non-controversial, so that it is likely to be accepted as a precedent? 2. Does the assessment break new ground from other assessments of the field, but do so in a non-controversial way, so that it is likely to be accepted as a precedent, taking into account that it is being disseminated by a respected government science agency?; or

Does the assessment have significant interagency interest?

Question 5

Is your information a "Highly Influential Scientific Assessment (HISA)"?

